

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Practitioner's Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: THOMAS V. WARD, JR. and JEANNE M. WARD

Application No.: /

Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

For:

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BECAUSE OF APPLICANT'S AGE**  
 (37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c) AND M.P.E.P. § 708.02 IV)

NOTE: See M.P.E.P. § 708.02, 7th ed.

Applicant hereby petitions to make this application special because applicant is over 65 years of age.

As a showing of this fact, accompanying this petition is:

(check one of the following)

applicant's birth certificate.  
 a declaration by the applicant that he/she is over 65 years of age.

No fee is required with this petition, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c).

*Charles F. Meroni, Jr.***SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER**Charles F. Meroni, Jr.  
(type or print name of practitioner)P.O. Box 309

P.O. Address

Barrington, Illinois 60011Reg. No. 20,109Tel. No. (847) 304-1500Customer No. 30114

(Petition to Make Special Because of Applicant's Age [9-15.3])

PATENT  
Atty Docket 032756

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

THOMAS V. WARD, JR. and  
JEANNE M. WARDGroup Art Unit:  
UnknownFor: IMPROVED PAPER BINDING  
STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF  
FORMING SAMEExaminer:  
Unknown

Serial No. (Unknown)

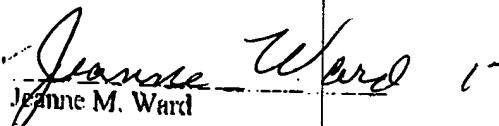
Filed: (Being Filed Herewith)

DECLARATION OF JEANNE M. WARD

Jeanne M. Ward, being first duly sworn upon her oath, deposes and states as follows:

1. She is a co-inventor of the subject invention.
2. She is 78 years of age, having been born on October 19, 1925.
3. She is requesting that the attached Petition To Make Special be granted in this application because of her age.

Further Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 12/23/03, 2003.  
Jeanne M. Ward